

PCT
Meeting Summary
December 11, 1996

Topics of Discussion

Introduction/Agenda - Judy Kelly/Steve Yaeger

- Update on work group and technical team activities.
- Minutes from last meeting.

Levee Workshop (Dec. 17) Preview - Curt Schmutte

- Overall organization of the levee team.
- Subteam organization and makeup.
- System integrity work plan.
- Issues and work products for each subteam.
- Island prioritization for special projects.
 - Draft objectives.
 - Draft thresholds for ranking projects.

AB 360 - Kent Nelson

- Habitat on levees, land and water side.
- Methodology and tools available to the Reclamation Districts that want to participate.
- Incentives will be used for some of the levee work and large scale habitat corridors.

Progress Storage/Conveyance Refinement - Stein Buer

- Stakeholder outreach and coordination.
- Operating Rules.
- DWRSIM, DWRDSM, and spreadsheet post-processing progress.
- Facility inventory, environmental and engineering evaluation.
- Workshop on Conveyance/Storage February 4.

Review of November 19 Ecosystem Workshop - Dick Daniel

- Implementation objectives and targets.
- Ongoing technical work groups.
- Time value of water:
 - Budget suspended while approach is being considered.
 - Smaller group considering a more straightforward approach.

Water Quality Common Program Update - Rick Woodard

- Phase I, technical teams, parameters of concern and actions (32).
- The component refinement process.
- Ten priority actions being considered.
- All actions are described in seven action categories.
- Water quality common program and schedule.
- Water quality workshop February 4.

Update on the Water Use Efficiency Common Program - Rick Soehren

- Draft proposed water use efficiency approach.
- Urban, agricultural, environmental water use efficiency tools.
- Recycling approach.
- Water transfers.

Watershed Management Approach - Steve Yaeger

- Staff preparing a revised statement, will discuss in future PCT meeting.

CALFED/State Board Process - Jerry Johns

- Discussion postponed until next PCT meeting.

Fish Screen Committee - Randy Brown

- CALFED fish facility technical team will meet December 12 at Central District.
- Seventy-page documentation of interagency ecological programs.
- Fish screen criteria for Delta needed for:
 - North Delta isolated conveyance facility.
 - Through Delta diversion facility.
 - CVP/SWP South Delta fish facilities.

Geographic Information Systems - Steve Yaeger

- Ray McDowell is the Program Team member in charge of GIS.
- CALFED short-term proposal for GIS.
- Will form interagency committee on short- and long-term GIS products.
- Will need agency resources to help generate products.
- Assistance request form to CALFED agencies.
- Letter will be sent to agency director requesting assistance with products.
- Need software and database people.
- Primary focus will be Delta, then expand out into watersheds.

Five-Year Plan Budget Update: State/Federal - Steve Yaeger

- Same five-year budget.
- Representatives of Federal agencies to get to FY 1998 numbers.
- Requested \$100-125 million, probably will get \$35-50 million.
- Will be February before we know actual budget.

CALFED Management Team - Steve Yaeger

- Fish Screen, Assurances, Criteria.
- Category decision-making process.
- Five-year implementation plan.
- Budget FY 1998.

Next Meeting

January 8, 1997

Summary of Key Discussion Points

Levee Workshop Preview - Curt Schmutte

1. Prioritization of islands for special projects will not include weighting (preference of one island over another). The prioritization will be done within each of the draft objectives and will be technical only in nature, not policy driven.
2. Levee subteam is developing a long-term management strategy of subsidence and is aware of the work done by EPA on dredge disposal on Delta islands.
3. Kathy Kelly- Expected more of a habitat development approach in the AB 360 methodology. The approach has the methodology and tools to do the work needed for those reclamation districts that want to participate.
4. Some confusion between AB 360 and the long-term projects being considered by the levee team. The levee team's work deals with incentives for large scale habitat corridors and protection.
5. Concern was expressed that CALFED is budgeting work in the five-year implementation program that is already under the South Delta Program. Steve Yaeger explained that there is no tie between the Curt's work and the South Delta Program.
6. Kathy Kelly asked what are the channel capacities for Alternative 1 over and above the work planned for the South Delta Program. Alternative 1 will have minor modifications to existing channels. Pete Chadwick said that Alternatives 2 and 3 at the high flow end could look a lot like the South Delta Program.

Progress Storage/Conveyance Refinement - Stein Buer

1. The general approach for establishing the operating rules has been accepted by agency and stakeholder modelers. Had good peer review by Modeling Forum.
2. Kathy Kelly related that CALFED should make sure that there is good interaction between the stakeholder modelers and those that are used to evaluate modeling results.
3. Carolyn Yale asked how the storage/conveyance will package the results for the workshop, now February 4. Will focus on impacts of various components on the present Delta system. Will be essentially an analysis of Alternatives 1, 2 and 3.
4. Present status is that DWRSIM is 90 percent debugged for Alternatives 2 and 3. Benchmark is available on DWR home page. All storage and conveyance options are now in model and the operating rules are being added, including south of Delta storage.

5. Spreadsheet model that works with DWRSIM output is available.
6. Kathy Kelly asked if CALFED is coordinating with DWR before they talk about groundwater and conjunctive use in the Sacramento Valley. DWR has experience in implementing groundwater programs in this area and would warn that a carefully thought out approach is necessary for addressing these issues in the north valley. Groundwater and conjunctive use is being considered for all three alternatives.
7. Impacts on fisheries (positive and negative) of new reservoirs in the north valley will be addressed in the impact analysis sometime in March and June 1997.
8. Pete Chadwick asked if the analyses of Alternatives 2 and 3 will be completed in time to analyze the flow impacts on the ecosystem component and will the models predict velocities, such as around Tyler Island. The models will be ready by the start of impact analysis and will allow prediction of relative velocities in the key Delta channels.
9. George Barns explained that the present operating rules used in the models are "straw men" of ranges and are to be used as a starting point.

Review of November 19 Ecosystem Workshop - Dick Daniel

1. Carolyn Yale stated that EPA is having difficulty allowing enough resources to cover modeling, time value of water, and impact analyses.
2. Dick Daniel is starting to talk to environmental managers about how they might manage their portion of the storage system. Chris Mobley suggested they might operate similar to the CALFED operations group in making water decisions.
3. Carolyn Yale showed concern that the ecosystem is much broader than for salmon and the present models may not be adequate to determine the impacts on other species.
4. Kathy Kelly was concerned that the time value of water is not going forward, given that it is so linked to storage /conveyance.
5. Steve Yaeger explained present status of time value of water.
 - The original approach was too complex and difficult to explain.
 - Recent handout tried to explain the complex approach in clearer terms.
 - Will be a stepped process to get to the more complex approach.
 - Need conceptual agreement on the approach.
 - Will need general operating rules considering time value of water for alternative analysis.

6. Penny Howard read the draft *Time Value of Water* document and was alarmed that we seem to have abandoned the detail to go to a more prescriptive approach. A discussion was held centered around real time adaptive management versus a prescriptive approach based on the calendar.

Water Quality Common Program Update - Rick Woodard

1. The question was asked how do we get more agency and stakeholder people involved in the decision process and who else should be involved. Jerry Johns suggested that Rick provide a list of committee members and attendees to him and other PCT members, and they will review and make suggestions.
2. Carolyn Yale would like to hear a presentation on permit streamlining by Frank Wernette at the next PCT meeting.